Impact of Books

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**Introduction**

My instructor wanted me to create an educational tool, in this case, a book that will help teach children of the community cultural matters that may affect them. I wanted to get a better idea of how I can help the disadvantaged children of the community in any way possible.

**Methods**

In my service learning project I wrote and illustrated a book that will teach children how important it is to accept people even if they are different. After I had my book printed and delivered, I volunteered one evening to read to a group of children on the Bells for Books bus in Garden City.

**Reflection**

By participating in this service learning project I now better understand the benefits of volunteering in my community. I also gained knowledge about how important it is to supply children with the tools they need to succeed in life regardless of their living circumstances or other factors they cannot control. As I wrote my children's book I learned how to word things in such a way that a child can take a life lesson away from the pages. When I read my book to the children I learned that they truly do pay attention to the overall messages in each book they read and how important it is to convey appropriate messages. Now that I know more about ways in which I can volunteer in my community to benefit children, I will become a more active volunteer. Being an active member of society and your community is essential to its progressive growth and it is my duty to help in any way possible to benefit it. This experience changed my views on the importance of volunteer work and I will make more of an effort to be a more involved citizen.

**Community Partner**

**Name:** Bells for Books

**Mission Statement:**

“To ensure that every child in Garden City has access to Library books.”

**Project Purpose /Need:**

Children in the Garden City area need to be able to access Library books because every child has the right to education and should not be at a disadvantage due to circumstances they cannot control.

**Direct Impact:**

I read to two children on the Bells for Books bus and they asked me to read it twice. Although reading it didn't take more than 30 minutes, writing the book and editing took me around 6-7 hours.

**Indirect Impact:**

By taking the time to go read to the youth of Garden City, I not only showed them that they deserve the right to education and books, but also the importance of volunteering.